

[19 December, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

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2005-06		
1	Redevelopment/Restoration of Kalighat Temple Complex/area at Kolkata for 21st Centenary	500.00
2	Development of Tourism at Cooch-Behar City (Distt. Cooch Behar)	475.00
3	West Bengal Tourism Festival, 2006	4.35
4.	Mahotsav 2005 at Kolkata	5.00
5	18th Bishnupur Mela, 2005	5.00
	TOTAL	989.35
2006-07		
1.	Integrated Development of "Tea Tourism Circuit" in North Bengal	388.98
2.	Setting up of a Night-Safari Park at Jorepokhari in Darjeeling, West Bengal under LRG Scheme-Preparation of Feasibility Report	15.00
3.	Development of Kalimpong under Destination Development	498.38
4.	Creation/setting up tourism infrastructural facilities at Goke under Destination Development	355.49
	TOTAL	1257.85

Shortage of rooms for tourists

3011. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is fact that the Indian tourism industry has been facing a problem due to shortage of rooms in various cities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof,
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government have asked the house owners not to provide accommodation to tourist; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b)
Yes, Sir. The tourism industry is facing a shortage of hotel rooms, especially

in the main tourist destinations as well as the metro cities like Delhi, Mumbai, and Bangalore. The shortage is very acute during the peak tourist season from October to March every year. The tremendous increase in foreign and domestic tourists is the principal reason for the shortage of hotel rooms.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, the Ministry of Tourism has launched a scheme of Bed & Breakfast asking the house owners, to provide accommodation for the benefit of tourists. The main requisite of the scheme is that only those home owners, who are able to offer a minimum of one room or a maximum of five rooms of prescribed specification are eligible to apply for this scheme. The idea is to provide a clean and affordable place for foreign and domestic tourists and an opportunity to stay with an Indian family to experience local customs and traditions and relish authentic local cuisine

Utilization of ground water

3012. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: -Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state: -

(a) whether Central Ground Water Authority started conducting a survey in Delhi in two blocks to analyze legal and regulatory framework pertaining to utilization of ground water for better management of natural resources;

(b) whether the study covers a combination of States where legislation to regulate the use of ground water has been enacted and those where such an act is yet to be passed;

(c) whether objective of the study is to analyze existing legal and regulatory utilization of ground water; and

(d) if so, the details of study report of all the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) No separate survey has been conducted by Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) to analyze the legal and regulatory framework in different States, including Delhi. However, based on ground water assessment carried out jointly by the Central Ground Water Board (CGVVB) and the States, CGWA has notified South and Southwest districts in NCT Delhi for regulation of